



City of Bellevue East Link Light Rail Construction Fact Sheet

March 2016

What is East Link?

The East Link Light Rail project is a 14-mile extension of Sound Transit's regional mass light rail transit system. Ten East Link stations will serve Seattle, Mercer Island, South Bellevue, downtown Bellevue, Bel Red (Bellevue) and the Overlake area in Redmond. Six of the stations are located within Bellevue city limits.

How are the City of Bellevue and Sound Transit coordinating during East Link construction?

The City of Bellevue and Sound Transit agreed to a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) ensuring that the two agencies will coordinate and collaborate during the design, permitting, and construction of East Link and the Operations & Maintenance Satellite Facility. This collaboration is to ensure that traffic impacts are minimized, neighborhoods and businesses are accessible and informed and business needs and community concerns are addressed.



*East Link Extension map
(Source: Sound Transit)*

What is the timeline for East Link construction?

Sound Transit has provided an initial construction schedule with a range of early and late start dates (subject to change):

- **Downtown Bellevue Tunnel:** 1st Quarter 2016 to 2nd Quarter 2020
- **South Bellevue Segment: South Bellevue Station:** 4th Quarter 2016 to 4th Quarter 2020
- **Central Bellevue Segment: East Main Station, Bellevue Downtown Station, Wilburton Station and Spring District/120th Station:** 2nd Quarter 2017 to 4th Quarter 2020
- **Bel-Red Segment: Bel-Red/130th Station:** 1st Quarter 2017 to 3rd Quarter 2020
- **Operations & Maintenance Satellite Facility (OMSF)** in BelRed – 2017 to 2020
- **SR520/Overlake Segment: Overlake Village Station and Redmond Technology Center Station** (Redmond, WA): 1st Quarter 2017 to 1st Quarter 2020
- **I-90 Segment: Judkins Park Station and Mercer Island Station:** 1st Quarter 2017 to 4th Quarter 2020



*South Bellevue East Link Station schematic
(Source: Sound Transit)*

East Link construction is anticipated to be complete by the end of 2022. Sound Transit will test operations for one year before beginning service in 2023.

What is the City's role in East Link construction?

Sound Transit is the agency responsible for building the rail line, the stations and all of the supporting infrastructures and will hire contractors to complete each segment. The City of Bellevue is responsible for ensuring the design and construction meet city codes through permit review and inspection. More specifically, Bellevue is responsible for:



Permitting and Inspection

- Ensure that the conditions of approval for city-issued Design and Mitigation Permits for the South Bellevue, Central Bellevue, BelRed Segments and the Spring District/120th Street Station are satisfied.
- Review, condition, and issue decisions on land use applications such as environmental impact review (SEPA), administrative conditional use permits, and expanded construction noise work hours.
- Review, condition, and issue decisions on technical permit applications necessary for the various construction activities including Right-of-Way, clearing and grading, building, building demolition, utility permits, and other permits.
- Coordinate with construction management staff from Sound Transit and its contractors to ensure timely submittal of required permit applications and supporting documentation.
- Inspect construction activities to ensure safe construction practices; compliance with issued permits and City codes and require corrections as needed.

Maintenance of Traffic

- Coordinate with Sound Transit and its contractors to minimize traffic impacts to keep vehicle traffic moving
- Ensure commitments regarding traffic maintenance in the MOU are met.
- Ensure coordination with developers and other city projects.

Community Relations

- Respond to questions and concerns about East Link construction and coordinate with Sound Transit to resolve them.

City of Bellevue Transportation Department

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